IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

On page 3, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B1 --According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method and system for coordinating media and messaging operations in an information processing system which includes the ability for streaming media and messages in an information processing system from a switching mechanism to a plurality of user nodes. The invention receives a plurality of unsynchronized media and messages from said plurality of user nodes in a synchronizer. Instructions of the present invention further control the streaming of media and messages from said switching mechanism to said plurality of user nodes using said synchronizer. Streaming media may include, for example, chat, audio and video elements, video conference transmissions, teleconference transmissions, and other combinations of media elements. --

On page 4, please replace paragraph 4, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B2 --FIGURE 3 [displays] shows a second screen displayed by a monitor associated with the system of FIGURE 1; --

On page 4, please replace paragraph 9, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B3 --FIGURE 8 [illustrates] shows a data flow diagram for the coordinating system of FIGURE 1; --

On page 5, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B4 --FIGURE 11 [displays] shows a logic flow diagram for yet another aspect of the present invention; --

On page 5, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B5 --FIGURE 13 illustrates [a] another screen display associated with the operation of the present invention; --

On page 5, please replace paragraph 6, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B6 --FIGURE 16 is an illustration of a [15th] yet another screen displayed by a display device of the system of FIGURE 1; and--

On page 16, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 17.

B7 --By doing so, User1 causes client computer 132 to receive real time continuously streaming video signals and real time continuously streaming audio signals from the video camera and microphone of media devices 124. Alternatively, User1 may cause client computer 132 to receive continuously streaming video signals and continuously streaming audio signals from the video cassette player of media devices. In response to a suitable request by User1, client computer 132 translates such signals into digital information and outputs such digital information to display device 128, so that User1 is free to view the visual images represented by such signals, as well as to speakers 126, so that User1 is free to hear audio frequencies represented by such signals. In response to a suitable request that may be output to media server 112 through TCP/IP network 110 by another client, media server 112 outputs a request to client computer 132, for example, through TCP/IP network 110. In response to such a request from media server 112, client [compute] computer 132 translates the signals from media devices 124 into digital information and outputs such digital information to media server 112 through TCP/IP network 110 and ultimately to the requesting client for display on such client's associated display device and for output on such client's associated speakers.--

On page 17, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 18.

B8 --[Referring to FIGURE 3, in] In response to User1's "clicking" on video button 220, the video button 220 is surrounded by two curves instead of a single curve, and media menu 216 and respective media menus of other enabled clients of coordinating system 100 display User1's name, along with an indication that User1 has transmitted "video & audio". Likewise, media menu [252] 216 displays the names of other enabled

users (e.g., User2, User3 and User4) who have operated their respective transmit menus to transmit various types of media, as shown in FIGURE 2. For example, client 104 is associated with User2, client 106 is associated with User3, and client 108 is associated with User4. Likewise, although FIGURE 1 shows only four clients (i.e., clients 102, 104, 106 and 108, it should be understood that other clients substantially identical to clients 102, 104, 106 and/or 108 connect to network 110. Therefore, other enabled users associated with such other clients may join the particular message session.--

On page 18, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--As shown in FIGURE 2, User2 may transmit audio, as " indicated by the "audio" designation adjacent to User2 in media menu 216. User3 and User4 have transmitted respective video & audio, as indicated by the "video and audio" designations adjacent to their names in media menu 216. Accordingly, the sources of the various media transmissions listed in media menu 216 are the clients associated with various enabled users of coordinating system 100. The enabled users communicate with one another by typing messages as shown in chat window 206. In that manner, each enabled user, who has joined the particular message session, is able to tell the other enabled users about the contents of transmissions, which may be identified in media menu [212] 216, without such other enabled users necessarily having to view or hear such transmissions.--

On page 19, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--Even if a particular enabled user has not yet transmitted media, or has not yet typed a chat message, such user is nevertheless able to view the communicated chat messages in his/her associated chat window and the list of available media transmissions in his/her associated media menu [212] 216 by viewing his/her associated display device connected to his/her associated client computer.--

On page 19, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--Media window 204 displays media to User1. In a significant aspect of the illustrative embodiment, User1 may select (for viewing and/or listening) any of the media transmissions listed in media menu [212] 216, by clicking on the "YES" button adjacent

to such media transmission's listing. Moreover, User1 may reject any of such media transmissions by clicking on the "NO" button adjacent to such media transmission's listing, so that such rejected media transmission is no longer listed in media menu [212] 216.--

B11

On page 19, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--As shown in FIGURE 2, User1 may select User3's continuously streaming video & audio transmission (originating from a videocassette player of User3's associated media devices) by clicking on the "YES" button adjacent to User3's listing in media menu [212] 216. In response to User1's selection, client computer 132 outputs to media server 112 through TCP/IP network 110 a request for User3's media transmission. In response to such request, media server 112 and client 106 associated with User3 output User3's media transmission to client computer 132 for display on display device 128 and for output on speakers 126.--

B12

On page 20, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--Accordingly, in FIGURE 3, media window 204 displays User3's media transmission, along with an indication that such media transmission is received from User3. Notably, when media window 204 begins displaying User3's media transmission, transmit/receive window 210 displays a "receive menu" instead of the "transmit menu", although transmit/receive window 210 displays a "transmit menu" button, and media window 204 no longer displays media menu [212] 216. The "receive menu" includes "End" button 240, "Pause" button 242, "Capture" button 244, "Repeat" button 246, "Forward" button 248, and "Reverse" button 250.--

B13

On page 22, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--Notably, media window 204 FIG.2 displays User4's media transmission partially overlapping User3's media transmission, because User1 selected User4's media transmission more recently than User3's media transmission. Also, when media window 204 begins displaying User4's media transmission, media window 204 no longer displays media menu 216. In media window 204, User1 clicks on User4's media transmission

B14

B14 within media window 204 and, while continuing to activate the switch of the pointing device, User1 relocates User4's media transmission within media window 204. In a similar manner, User1 can relocate any window within screen 200.--

On page 22, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B15 --In the operation of the present invention, User1 may type a chat message. Also, User1 may click on "Media Menu" button 252, so that media menu 216 appears again within media window 204. Also, User1 may select a separate video & audio transmission by clicking on "YES" button [218], adjacent to User1's listing in media menu [252] 216. In response to User1's selection, media window 204 displays User1's media transmission, along with an indication that such media transmission is received from User1.--

On page 24, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B16 --As shown in FIG. 5, chat [Chat] window 206 may display a chat message from User2 with an adjacent "hear" button 256. Also, User1 may type a chat message and click on "Attach" button 228. In response to clicking on "Attach" button 228, through TCP/IP network 110 client computer 132 outputs the chat message to chat server 114 and other enabled clients of coordinating system 100 and the captured-and-stored media transmission from the beginning of such capture to the end of such capture. Accordingly, User3's previous media transmission that was captured and stored to media server 112 [and] is provided to other enabled clients of coordinating system 100.--

On page 24, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 25.

B17 --[Accordingly, when] When User1's chat message is displayed in chat window 206 and in the chat windows respectively associated with such other enabled clients, User11s chat message may be displayed with an adjacent "see" button 254, in the same manner as User2's chat message is displayed in chat window 206 with adjacent "hear" button 256.--

On page 25, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--User1 may click on "Media Menu" button 252, so that media menu 216 displays again within media window 204 FIG. 6. Also, User1 may reject User4's media transmission by clicking on "NO" button 258 adjacent to the listing of User4's media transmission FIG. 4. This causes User4's media transmission to no longer be listed in media menu 216. Further, User1 may type a chat message. Similarly, User1 may reject User3's media transmission by clicking on "NO" button [260] adjacent to the listing of User3's media transmission, causing User3's media transmission to no longer be listed in media menu 216.--

B18

On page 26, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 27.

--User1 may further click on "Resume" button [242], so that client 102 resumes updating (i.e. stops freezing) its receipt and output of User1's first media transmission. The content of User1's first media transmission has changed substantially between the earlier time when User1 paused the output of his first media transmission and the later time when Userl resumed the output of his first media transmission. In response to Userl clicking on "Resume" button 242, "Resume" button changes into the "Pause" button [242]. Moreover, media window 204 will stop displaying Userl's second media transmission, because media window 204 will have finally displayed the end of the captured- and-stored media content of Userl's second media transmission.--

B19

On page 27, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--User1 may also click on "transmit menu" button 212 in transmit/receive window 210. In response to User1 clicking on "transmit menu" button 212, transmit/receive window 210 displays the "transmit menu" instead of the "receive menu", although transmit/receive window 210 displays "receive menu" button 214 FIG. 2. Notably, two curves instead of a single curve still surround "video" button of transmit/receive window 210 as was the case before transmit/receive window 210 displayed "receive menu" 210. --

B20

On page 28, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--In response to User1's clicking again on Capture button 244, Capture button 244 becomes surrounded by a single curve instead of two curves. Further, User1 may type a chat message. User1 may click on "video" button 220 FIG. 2, causing client computer 132 to stop outputting User1's media transmission to display device 128, media server 112 and other enabled clients of coordinating system 100.--

B21

On page 28, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--In FIGURE [6] 5, User1 may then click on "view threaded message" button *230* in chat window 206. In response, chat window 206 will display a "message window" instead of the "chat window" FIG. 6 and display "view sequence chat" button 231. The message window will display a list of topics. User1 may click on the "National Football League" topic, for example. --

B22

On page 29, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--User1 may click on the "down" arrow adjacent to the list of message titles. Consequently, the list of message titles may "scrolls", causing chat window 206 to stop displaying the message title and instead begin displaying the next message title. Also, User1 may click on "End" button 240 in transmit/receive window 210 FIG. 5, causing client 102 to stop receipt and output of the prior sender's media transmission. --

B23

On page 30, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 31.

--User1 may also click on the "End" button in transmit/receive window 210 FIG. 5, so that client 102 stops its receipt and output of media transmission.--

B24

On page 31, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--User1 may click on "Attach" button 228. In response to clicking on "Attach" button 228, client computer 132 outputs through TCP/IP network 110 User1's message to

B25

server 114 and other enabled clients of coordinating system 100, as well as the captured-and- stored media transmission from the beginning of such capture to the end of such capture. User1's previous media transmission that was captured and stored to media server 112 [and] is provided to other enabled clients of coordinating system 100.--

B25

On page 32, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B26

--User1 may click on "End" button 240 in transmit/receive window 210 FIG. 5, so that client 102 stops its receipt and output of User1's media transmission. Even if User1 did not click on the "End" button, media window 204 would automatically stop displaying User1's media transmission after media window 204 finally displayed the end of the captured-and-stored media content of User1's media transmission.--

On page 35, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B27

--In an alternative embodiment, chat server process 264 connects through a first link to media server process [264] 262, a second link to Web server process 266, and respective links to client processes 302, 304, 306 and 308. Within chat server process 264, such links are distributed to client subprocess objects 316, 318, 320 and 322, so that such client subprocess objects do not have their own respective links external to chat server process 264.--

On page 36, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B28

--Also, responsive to user 120 instructions, chat client process 312 outputs suitable instructions and chat information to client subprocess object [310] 316 which, in response thereto, outputs such instructions and chat information to selected one(s) of client subprocess objects 318, 320 and 322 for further output to selected one(s) of client processes 304, 306 and 308, respectively.--

On page 42, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B29

--If the answer at step 338 is YES, chat server process 264 outputs, at a step 346 a command to media server process [334] 262 to output the specified media transmission to

B29 the enabled client that requested such media transmission. After step 346, the operation returns to step 334.--

On page 43, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B30 --If the answer is NO, chat client process 312 determines, at a step 360, whether user 120 has clicked on "YES" button [218] in media menu 216, "see" button 254, or "hear" button 256. If the answer is NO, chat client process 312 determines, at a step 362, whether user 120 has clicked on a "NO" button. If the answer is NO, chat client process 312 determines, at a step 364, whether chat server process 264 has output, at step 344, an enabled client's name. If the answer is NO, chat client process 312 determines, at a step 366, whether user 120 has entered another command. If the answer is NO, the operation returns to step 354.--

On page 43, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B31 --If the answer at step 354 is YES, chat client process 312 outputs, at a step 368[)], the message to display device 128 for display in chat window 206. After step 368, the operation returns to step 354.--

On page 43, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B32 --If the answer at step 354 is YES, chat client process 312 outputs, at a step 370, the message to chat server process 264. After step 370, the operation returns to step [354] 356.--

On page 44, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B33 --If the answer at step 360 is YES, chat client process 312 outputs, at a step 376[)], a "YES" command to chat server process 264. After step 376, chat client process 312 transfers, at a step 378, control of a suitable portion of media window 204 to media client process 310. After step 378, the operation returns to step 354.--

On page 44, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B34 --If the answer at step 362 is YES, chat client process 312 outputs, at a step 380, a command to stop listing the rejected media transmission in media menu [212] 216. After step 380, the operation returns to step 354.--

On page 44, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B35 --If the answer at step 364 is YES, chat client process 213 outputs, at a step 382, a command to list the enabled client's name and media type in media menu [212] 216. After step 382, the operation returns to step 354.--

On page 46, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph.

B36 --FIGURE 13 is an illustration of screen 200 displayed by display device 128 that shows "global" button 422, "local" button 424, and "edit clients" [buttons] button 426. In FIGURE 13, User1 is a moderator of the chat and media sessions viewed by enabled users of coordinating system 100. --

On page 47, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 48.

B37 --In one embodiment, User1 selects which, if any, of the media transmissions that are listed in response to pressing media menu button 252 are to be listed in media menus viewed by "menu enabled" users. User1 makes such selections by clicking on the media transmissions respective listing that are displayed in response to pressing media menu button 252, thereby marking the selected media transmissions with asterisks. Moreover, User1 is able to de-select such a selected media transmission or such a selected message by double-clicking on its adjacent associated asterisk (not shown), so that such asterisk no longer appears on screen 200. --

On page 49, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 50.

--Users may make revisions to "clients" menu 428. User1 may, for example, make such revisions by clicking on various locations marked by "X" symbols in "clients" menu 428. User1 may, for example, identify User3 as "menu enabled" and transfer a revocable transferable moderator status to User3, although User1 could have transferred such status to User3 without such status being subject to revocation by User1, and/or transferable by User3 to another enabled user. In FIGURE 13, User1 may click on "submit" button [428] 430 to effect his revisions to the "clients" menu, although transmissions in media menu[212] 216 are viewable by other enabled users identified as "menu enabled".--

B38

On page 50, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--FIGURE 14 provides flowchart 430 of an operation of chat server process 264 that is modified in the following manner. If the answer at step 338 is NO, the operation does not return directly to step 354; instead, chat server process [430] 264 determines, at a step 434, whether a "global" command has been sent by an enabled client having moderator status. If the answer is NO, the operation returns to step 334. If the answer is YES, chat server process [430] 264 outputs, at a step 436, a command to media server process [430] 262 to output the specified media transmission to all enabled clients. After step 436, the operation returns to step 334. --

B39

On page 50, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 51.

--FIGURE 15 shows flowchart 440 for the operation of an alternative chat client process 312 that is essentially similar to chat client process flowchart 350 of FIGURE 10, except that FIGURE 15 is modified in accordance with the discussion hereinabove in connection with FIGUREs 13 and 14. More particularly, FIGURE 15 is modified in the following manner. If the answer at step 364 is NO, the operation does not continue directly to step 366; instead, chat client process [440] 312 determines, at a step 444, whether User1 has clicked on "global" button 422. If the answer is NO, operation

B40

continues to step 366. If the answer is YES, chat client process [440] 312 outputs, at a step 446, a "global" command to chat server process [440] 264. After step 446, operation returns to step 354.--

B40

On page 51, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--FIGUREs 16 and 17 show screen 200 displayed by display device 128 wherein user 120 of FIGURE 1 is User2. In addition to features of coordinating system 100 already discussed hereinabove, FIGURE 16 further shows "allow follow" button 448 and "follow me" button 450 in media window 204, plus "allow follow" [and "chat menu" buttons] button 452 in chat window 206. In FIGURE 16, User2 clicks on "allow follow" button 448 in media window 204.--

B41

On page 51, please replace paragraph 3, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 52.

--In response to User2 clicking on "allow follow" button 448, "allow follow" button 448 changes into a "no follow" button [448'] (not shown) in media window 204, and a "follow me" button is displayed adjacent to User2' s name in the respective media menus associated with all enabled users of coordinating system 100, including but not limited to media menu [254] 216. By clicking on "no follow" button [448'], User2 causes the "no follow" button 448' to change back into "allow follow" button [448] in media window 204. This also causes the "follow me" button to stop being displayed adjacent to User2's name in the respective media menus associated with all enabled users of coordinating system 100. By displaying the "follow me" button adjacent to User2's name in each enabled user's respective associated media menu, such enabled user is free to click on "follow me" button [448'] 450, so that his/her respective associated media window 204 displays the most recently selected media transmission that is displayed by media window 204 by user 2.--

B42

On page 52, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--User2 may click on "YES" button 454 adjacent to User3's listing in media menu 252. In response to User2's selection, media window 204 displays User3's " media transmission, along with an indication that such media transmission is received from User3. Also, User2 may "double-click" (i.e., clicks twice within a predetermined, or preselected, short period of time) on chat window 206. In response, chat window 206 will display messages of the particular message session that is associated with the most recently selected media transmission (i.e., User3's media transmission) being displayed in media window 204 (see FIG. 17).--

B43

On page 52, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 53.

--Also, in FIG. 17, User2 may click on "follow me" button 456 adjacent to one of User3's messages displayed in chat window 206. In the illustrative embodiment, it does not matter whether User2 clicks on the first or second "follow me" button adjacent to User3' s first and second messages displayed in chat window 206. In response to User2 clicking on either one of such "follow me" buttons [450] 456, chat window 206 displays messages appearing in User3's associated message window, and "stop follow" button [458] 462 and "follow media" button 460. In that manner, User2 "follows" User3' s message window content.--

B44

On page 53, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 54.

--In FIGURE 17, User2 may click on the "stop follow" button 462. In response, media menu [252] 216 stops displaying the "stop follow" and "follow chat" buttons, and media window 204 continues displaying media that is displayed in User3's associated media window. However, when User3's associated media window begins displaying media from a new media source, media window 204 will continue displaying media from the old media source. User2 may further click on "End" button [242] 240 in media

B45

window 204, so that media window 204 stops displaying the most recently selected media transmission from the old media source.--

On page 55, please replace paragraph 1, with the following rewritten paragraph.

--Illustratively, Web server process 266 communicates information through an HTTP connection, and chat server process 264 communicates information through a Telnet or IRC connection. Normally, an HTTP connection closes after completion of a document transfer, according to Web server processes such as Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Explorer. However, according to alternative technologies, such as server push, the HTTP connection remains open. [normally] Normally, Telnet and IRC connections remain open.--

On page 58, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 59.

--After the TCP/IP and Telnet connections are established, Telnet HTML chat client process [4520] 312 begins to receive messages posted by chat server process 264. Also, chat client process 312 may output messages to other Telnet HTML chat client processes through chat server process 264 or remain idle when no messages are being output or received. Non-HTML Telnet client processes may also be connected to chat server process 264, although such client processes would [Normally] normally display received messages with less fidelity, because such client processes would normally be less capable of properly parsing such messages.--

On page 63, please replace paragraph 2, with the following rewritten paragraph that ends on page 64.

--If Web browser process 314 is inactive (e.g., if client computer 132 is not already executing Web browser process 314), RTM chat client process [4520] 312 outputs a request to activate Web browser process [4522] 314 by using the URL associated with the embedded hyperlink as an instruction. In response to the request from

chat client process 312, Web browser process 314 establishes a TCP/IP connection with HTTP Web server process 266, and Web browser process 314 outputs (to HTTP Web server process 266) a request for a Web page by outputting the URL associated with the embedded hyperlink. HTTP Web server process 266 responds to such a request by obtaining the requested Web page and outputting it to Web browser process 314.--